United Nations S/2005/461

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2005

Original: English

Letter dated 13 July 2005 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I write with reference to my predecessor's letter of 22 July 2002 (S/2002/817). The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached supplementary report from Honduras submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex). I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ellen Margrethe **Løj**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

05-43023 (E) 010805 020805

Annex

[Original: Spanish]

Letter dated 7 June 2005 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Honduras to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

I have the honour to transmit herewith the second report from the Office of the Secretary of State for Security of Honduras concerning measures taken to combat terrorism in compliance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) (see appendix).

(*Signed*) Marco A. **Suazo**
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative

Appendix

[Original: Spanish]

Second report on measures taken to combat terrorism

2005

I. Introduction

The Republic of Honduras, aware of the threat that international terrorism represents, adheres to the measures suggested by the international community in this respect and is taking all possible steps at the State institutional level to ensure the proper implementation of these measures, in line with its obligations in this regard.

Priority has been given to this endeavour as a result of the attacks perpetrated by the Islamic fundamentalist group Al-Qaida against the United States of America in 2001. Those events, which showed that there is no perfect security system in the face of threats of extreme violence, became the point of departure for this alliance and for vigilance and faithful compliance with international treaties and conventions.

Honduras, as a democracy, is convinced of the need to promote the spirit of reciprocity, since no country is immune to such threats, and combating terrorism is a common cause incumbent on all democratic States of the world.

II. Commitments

International treaties and conventions are consistently observed with a view to implementing measures to combat international terrorism. For example, the national security system has undergone specific changes at the initiative of President Ricardo Maduro, who has made integrated security a major undertaking, with emphasis on creating security systems at different levels of implementation, as described below.

III. Measures taken

– Legislation

- First, with specific reference to terrorism, a preliminary draft law against terrorism has been submitted to the legislative chamber; it is entirely consistent with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which laid the foundation for the adoption of the Inter-American Convention against Terrorism; our country has already ratified this instrument.
- The Money Laundering Act (Decree No. 45-2002) has made it possible to set up a coordinated system for analysing and monitoring unusual financial transactions related to organized crime and for detecting operations that finance terrorist, drug-trafficking and other types of organizations.
- Honduras has ratified the Palermo Convention to combat organized crime. This is a very important tool which extends this active, cooperative endeavour throughout the world.

– Security

- Development of port and airport security measures which, in addition to fulfilling the requirements for combating terrorism, have enabled the country's ports to qualify for certification.
- Formation of special intelligence units that follow up international alerts concerning terrorists identified by the United Nations.
- Intensification of security measures for public office buildings.
- Use of X-ray machines to inspect containers.
- Use of X-ray machines at all of the country's airports and of canine units to detect explosives and drugs.
- Prosecution of money-laundering crimes through a special dedicated unit established within the General Department of Special Investigation Services.
- Constant monitoring by worldwide international, subregional and local agencies (IMF, World Bank, Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF)) of efforts to combat money-laundering.
- Addition of counter-terrorism to the police training curriculum.
- Establishment of a special databank to support anti-terrorist efforts.

– Finance

- Establishment of a financial investigation unit to monitor illicit financial transactions.
- Establishment by presidential decree of the Inter-Agency Commission to Combat Money Laundering.
- Provision of training on measures to combat money-laundering.
- Conduct of periodic evaluations of the national financial system.
- Establishment of a special unit to investigate fraudulent investments.

– Migration

- Issuance of electronic passports which comply with international security measures.
- Efforts to combat corruption in the national migration system to achieve greater control over the issuance of official documents.
- Establishment and inauguration of the Border Police for the purpose of combating international terrorism, among other objectives.

– International action

- Seizure on Honduran territory of weapons of war intended for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). To date, more than seven tons of such arms have been seized. They include AK-47, M-16 and M-14 rifles, Low missiles, RPG-7 grenade launchers, 60- and 30-calibre M-50 machine guns, large amounts of ammunition, satellite telephones, grenades with various levels of firepower and other military supplies.

- Coordination has been established at various levels with Ibero-America, the OAS Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), EUROPOL, Interpol, the United States Border Patrol Tactical Unit (BORTAC) and intelligence agencies of different countries of the world.

IV. Conclusions

- Very little counter-terrorism training is being provided. Training on protection measures for the benefit of developed countries has remained virtually unchanged. At the operative level, there is very little training.
- The national authorities have placed special emphasis on security as an important pillar of successful policy. However, international policy has not yet been harmonized in this area.

V. Recommendation

- Policies and strategies should be developed to provide more direct support for countries that decide to engage in overtly combating international terrorism.